

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**MASS LOAD METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A DATA STORAGE LIBRARY**

5 A data storage library is disclosed that provides a variable sized load/unload area within the library. The data storage library includes a housing defining an exterior and an interior region, storage slots disposed in the interior region for storing data cartridges, a
10 barrier door, a front door, and a controller. The barrier door has a closed position for dividing the interior region into a first interior region and a second interior region. Thus, the interior region is divided into two regions when the barrier door is closed. The
15 controller closes the barrier door prior to the front door being opened, and opens the barrier door after the front door is closed. Thus, access is permitted to only the first interior region from the exterior region when the front door is opened. The first interior region is
20 sized to permit a user to entirely physically enter the first interior region.